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INVITATION PAPERS AT THE BALTIMORE MEETING OF THE BOTANICAL SO- CIETY OF AMERICA

At the recent Baltimore meeting of the Botanical Society of America, three series of special papers were read by members who were specially requested by the council of the society to prepare them for the occasion.

The first set of papers dealt with certain phases of recent advance in our knowledge of vascular anatomy in plants. These papers, read on December 29, were by J. M. Coulter and E. C. Jeffrey.

The papers of the second series were read at a symposium on "Present Problems in Plant Ecology," on Wednesday, December 30. The participants were H. C. Cowles, B. E. Livingston, C. H. Shaw, V. M. Spalding and E. N. Transeau.

The papers of the third series were read at the Darwin Memorial Session, held on Thursday, December, 31. These addresses gave estimates of Darwin's work in three fields of botanical investigation. The participants were Wm. Trelease, F. E. Clements and H. M. Richards.

In accordance with the instructions of the society, all of the above mentioned papers are here published in full.

DUNCAN S. JOHNSON,
Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
BALTIMORE, MD., February 1, 1909.

DARWIN MEMORIAL SESSION

In response to a letter announcing the plans for the Darwin Memorial Session, and suggesting that some

word of greeting on that occasion would be very appropriate, and pleasing to his botanical colleagues in America, Professor Francis Darwin sent the following letter to the president of the Botanical Society of America. It arrived, unfortunately, for a reason stated in the letter, too late for the meeting, but it obviously belongs with the other contributions thereto.

13, MADINGLEY ROAD, CAMBRIDGE. Dec. 23, '08.

Dear Sir;

Owing to absence from home I am only now able to answer your very kind letter. I am afraid my answer can not reach you in time, which I much regret. I should have liked to express thro'h you as president my sympathy with this assembling of American botanists to honour my father's memory. It is a source of sincere satisfaction to me to know that such a meeting is to be held. I am reminded of my father's words to Asa Gray:

"Hooker has forwarded to me your letter to him; and I can not express how deeply it has gratified me. To receive the approval of a man whom one has long sincerely respected, and whose judgment and knowledge are most universally admitted, is the highest reward an author can possibly wish for."

Your meeting is a posthumous "reward," and though I have no right to speak for English botanists I know that they will appreciate it as it deserves.

Yours sincerely,
FRANCIS DARWIN.